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Abstract

THE EFFECT OF LIMING ON THE AVAILABILITY OF PHOSPHATE IN "CERRADO" SOILS OF BRAZIL

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The method of isotopic dilution was successfully used to study the influence of limestone in the availability of native phosphorus.

"A" values were determined by a simplified technique using samples of cerrado soils previously submitted in the field to the treatment with different amounts of limestone.

It has been found out:

(1) the three types of cerrado soils had different amounts of available phosphorus;

(2) liming increased linearly the "A" values in the case of two of the soils under study; in the third one, however, the response was linear also up to a point wherefrom a further increase in the amount of limestone applied caused a significant drop in available phosphorus.